

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****S COPY

OP IMMED
DE WTE #2750 1401705
O 201705Z MAY 74
FM THE SITUATION ROOM //TOHAK 253//

TO BREMER/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

UNCLAS VIA BLACK PATCH WH41418

TOHAK 253

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT
FOLLOWING IS A UPI REPORT OF SATURDAY'S PRESS BRIEFING
GIVEN BY JERRY WARREN.

239 A NIXON 5-18

BY EUGENE V. RISHER

KEY BISCAYNE, FLA. (UPI) -- THE WHITE HOUSE SATURDAY DECLINED COMMENT ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE A CONFLICT BETWEEN PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER OVER WHO ORDERED TELEPHONE TAPS PLACED ON GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS SUSPECTED OF LEAKING SECRET INFORMATION TO NEWSMEN.

ACCORDING TO A STORY BY KNIGHT NEWSPAPERS, A PRESIDENTIAL TAPE RECORDING SHOWS THAT NIXON TOLD JOHN W. DEAN III, HIS FORMER COUNSEL, ON FEB. 28, 1973 THAT KISSINGER HAD ASKED FOR THE TELEPHONE TAPS TO DISCOVER THE SOURCE OF LEAKS OF NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION.

KISSINGER, HOWEVER, IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DURING HIS CONFIRMATION HEARINGS LAST SEPTEMBER, SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD SUPPLIED THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WITH ACCESS TO SENSITIVE INFORMATION HE HAD "NEVER RECOMMENDED THE PRACTICE OF WIRE TAPPING."

DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY GERALD L. WARREN, ASKED ABOUT THE APPARENT CONFLICT, DECLINED TO COMMENT ON WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS SUCH "SELECTIVE LEAKS" FROM PRESIDENTIAL TAPE RECORDINGS. BUT HE DID DEFEND KISSINGER'S ACCOUNT OF THE INCIDENT BY SAYING HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE WAS "COMPLETELY CONSISTENT WITH THE FACTS."

0259

PSN:047663

PAGE 01

OF 01

TDR:140/16:42Z

DTG:201705Z MAY 74

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****S COPY